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Exh. No.



INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al A F F I D A V I F

- AGAINST - of

ARAKI, Sadao, et al KIKUCHI, Toyosaburo

- I, KIKUTHI, Toyosaburo make oath and say as follows:
- 1. I, KIKUCHI, Toyosaburo, served in the Education Ministry from July 21, 1987 to April 17, 1939 I was Chief of the Bureau of Public Instruction in the Education Ministry, under Marquis KIDO, who was Minister of Education from October 22, 1937 to May 26, 1938. The following facts are based on my own knowledge and on information obtain by me in my official capacity.
- 2. Mr. YASUI, Education Minister, the predecessor of Marquis KIDO, was subjected to a barrage of interpellations at a plenary session of the House Budgetary Committee of the Diet of 1938 by Messrs. HARA, Sobei, ASHIDA, Hitoshi and MAKINO, Ryozo about a book "Kokutai no Hongi" (Assence of the National Polity), published in March, 1937 by the Education Ministry during the tenure of office of YASUI's predecessor HAYASHI as Education Minister. The book contained passages, belittling the Diet and criticizing constitutional government. Mr. YASUI was at a loss to make a reply to the question and criticisms of the member of the Diet.

When Marquis KIDO assumed the portfolio of Education, he ruled that those passages of the book in question were improper and

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ordered his subordinates to suppress or revise the book. He decided to have the book revised and in the meantime stopped its sales and distribution. Consequently, Education Minister KIDO appointed several people in the Education Ministry to revised the book. While work on the revision was under way, the Cabinet was reconstructed, so that Marquis KIDO resigned as Education Minister without seeing the revision completed. Influences of the extreme nationalists and rightists were very powerful in those days, so that we were strongly impressed by Education Minister KIDO's action, which called for moral courage and convections.

that KIDO became Education Minister that MINODA, Kyoki and his faction were trying to expel Professors KAWAI, Eijiro, YO.OT., Kisaburo, TANAKA, Kotaro, MIYAZAWA, Toshiyoshi, and SUVELIC., Izutaro from the Tokyo Imperial University and brought processors to bear upon them in various ways. I heard Education Minister KIDO say that he refused to be intimidated by rightist influences and would not allow the professors in question to be removed from the Tokyo Imperial University. When Marquis KIDO became Minister of Education he inculcated in that Ministry a freshness of spirit and respect for freedor and independence of views which was apparent to all of us who worked under him. This was apparent from his acts and conversations.

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- 4. The resignation of Professor YANAIBARA, Tadao from the Tokyo Imperial University on December 4, 1937 was due to some improper phraseology, which was contained in his article, contributed to a religious magazine, "TSUSHIN". And his article entitled "KAMI-NO-KUNI" was based on his lecture, delivered before commemorative meeting.
- 5. This case of Professor YANAIBARA became a question before the Faculty Council of the Tokyo Imperial University. Dr. NAGAYO, President of the University also said he thought it proper for Professor YANAIBARA to resign, while friends of Professor YANAIBARA including Professor OUCHI advised him to resign. The result was that Professor YANAIBARA tendered his resignation of his own accord. His resignation was accepted by Presidnet NAGAYO, after consultation with Education Minister KIDO. The question was solved in the University itself and I know of no pressure or acts was brought by Education Minister KIDO in this matter.
- 6. Stimulated by the tense situation then prevailing, a strong tendency asserted itself in Army circles, especially young Army officers to demand for strengthening of military education. Some even went the length of demanding guidance of education on the part of the Army. For the purpose of attaining the object, university autonomy and independence were looked upon as the most serious obstacle. A change of the President of the Tokyo Imporial University, at least was regarded as necessary for the success of the proposed reform. In consequence, Lioutenant-General

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TATEKAWA, Yoshitsugu and Colonel KoBAYASHI, Junichiro demanded Education Minister KIDO to make Dr. NAGAYO resign as President of the Tokyo Imperial University, but he flatly rejected the demand.

Measures, demanded by the Army for strengthening military education in the Universities included the following:

- (1) To make military oducation an obligatory subject of study at the university instead of being an optional one.
- (2) To add military drill to military education besides a history of battl s and military lectures.
- (3) To increase the number of Army officers assigned to universities and make them regular instructors.
- (4) To make the record in military education have a decisive influence on the students' graduation or promotion.

These demands were submitted to the Education Ministry by the Army which tried to persuade Education Ministry authorities to accept them in various ways. Those Education Ministry authorities, concerned, consulted Education Minister KIDO about the matter, whereupon Education Minister KIDO rejected the Army demands in clear-cut terms and stated that such reforms would not be carried out and they were not carried out during his term as Minister of Education.

7. During the time when KIDO was Minister of Education, there

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was no pressure brought by the military with respect to increase of military training or education in the high schools, middle schools, private schools and primary schools, nor was there any increase in hours of study, subject matter or drill made by KIDO or any one else in these schools during his Ministry. 3. In June, 1937 the first KONOYE Cabinet was formed. KIDO reported to the officials of the Ministry of Education that Prime Minister KONOYE had stated at cabinet meetings that he was grieved to see that the bigoted Japanese spirit was rampant on the one hand and on the other extreme Communism was spreading, with the result that a large number of student Communists were rounded up. In view of the public opinion that the prevailing confusion was due fundamentally to defects in the educational policy and system, the Prime Minister set up the Kyoiku Shingikai ( Educational Counc. 1 for the purpose of revamping the educational policy and system. The members of the Educational Council were chosen from various walks of life such as educators and those possessed of profound learning and rich experiences. The Council was charged with the task to make systematic and comprehensive studies of various educational questions for the purpose of reforming the educational system. It was set up, It was granted an Imperial message and had its inaugural meeting in December, 1937. It was not swayed by any particular political influence, nor was it subservient to the Cabinet. On the contrary, it was intended to be a permanent organ, quite separate of the Cabinet and transcending the

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latter. This accounts for the fact that Mr. ARAI, Kentaro, Vice-President of the Privy Council, was appointed its president. Various committees of the Council conducted deliberations on the basis of public opinion. Various question, including a clarification of the essence of the national polity, expansion of mass education, enhancement of the physical standard of the people, rectification of the uniformity of education and promotion of scientific and industrial education, alleviation of the burden on the young students, and improvement of educational finances and administration were approached and studied from the angle of free education. An educational reform was sought in efforts to train really creative and practical men and women, by studying tradition, industry, culture and national life which had bearings on education. The Council made many important decisions on the above matters during its existence, (but as it was only in a state of infancy during KIDO's term as Education Minister, no decision firm conviction that it were made during that period.) Education Minister KIDO parfirm conviction that the guiding principle of educational reform should consist in (1) establishment of character building, (2) revamping of the educational system, which has been detached from actual life and (3) promotion of business and scientific education. Marquis KIDO's tenure of office as Minister of Education was comparatively short, it being from the end of October, 1937 to the

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last of May, 1938 when he left the Education Ministry owing to a Cabinet reconstruction.

The Educational Council was established with the above-mentioned object while Marquis KIDO was Education Minister and embraced the opinions just referred to. The Educational Council was not an organ created for any military purpose what so ever nor did it make any decisions with respect thereto. In fact the reverse was the case.

On this 5 day of Feb., 1947 At I.M.T.F.E.

## DEPONENT KIKUCHI, Toyosaburo (seal)

I, HOZUMI, higetaka hereby certify that the above statement was sworn by the Deponent, who affixed his signature and soal thereto in the presence of this witness.

On the same date, at same place.

Witness: (signed) HOZUMI, Shigetaka (seal)

OATH

In accordance with my conscience I swear to tell the whole truth withholding nothing and adding nothing.

KIKUCHI, Toyosaburo (seal)

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